5th September 1928]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 147 asked by Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th September 1928, page 250 supra.]

Hindu-Muslim Tension, Guntur, 1928.

Certain Muhammadans of Guntur submitted petitions to Government before Muharrum this year praying for the demolition of a Hindu Bhajana Mandiram built by the Arya Vaisya Hari Bhajana Samajam in contravention of the orders of the Collector on a piece of Government land which had been alienated in 1900 on certain conditions to the Guntur municipality for the specific purpose of constructing a water reservoir. They objected to the existence of the Mandiram on the spot alleging that it narrowed the space for the passage of processions of peers on Muharrum days and that the existence of this Mandiram along the route by which their peers passed was objectionable. Both the objections were untenable. There was enough room for the processions to pass and if the Guntur municipality had built a water reservoir on the plot in accordance with the terms of the grant, that too would have narrowed the space, but the Muhammadans could not have raised any objection. Further, the Muhammadan peers used to pass through other streets in the town where there were Hindu temples.

2. The Government have since resumed the land alienated to the Guntur municipality as the terms of the grant had been violated and have asked the Collector to give notice both to the municipality and to the Arya Vaisya Hari Bhajana Samajam to deliver possession to the Government. The Collector was at the same time instructed to warn both Hindus and Muhammadans that no breach of the peace would be tolerated.

3. As the trespassers have refused to give possession, the Collector has instituted a suit for recovery. The Muhammadans too threatened to take matters into their own hands and demolish the Mandiram. The Collector closed the Mandiram completely under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and placed it under guard for the Muharrum. The Muhammadans declined to perform the Muharrum unless the Mandiram was demolished. The Hindus got restless over the closure of the Mandiram and threatened a hartal. As the Muharrum was not performed by the Muhammadans, the Mandiram was opened for two hours daily for the pooja until the orders under section 144 lapsed.

H. G. STOKES,
Acting Chief Secretary.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 151 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th September 1928, page 252 supra.]

List of hospitals declared by the Surgeon-General to have facilities for the training of dhais.

Headquarter Hospital, Vellore.
Women and Children Hospital, Tiruppattur.
Headquarter Hospital, Cuddalore.
Headquarter Hospital, Bellary.